

FACT SHEET

Gary D. Preszler, Commissioner

LAND DEPARTMENT SURFACE MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL



Gary Preszler, Land Commissioner

Gary is from a diversified family farming operation in Burleigh County, North Dakota. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business/Economics from NDSU. For 25 years he was employed by the State Department of Banking and Financial Institution which includes 15 years as Banking Commissioner. Gary has been the Land Commissioner since August 15, 2001. Gary oversees the management of the Department's land assets, mineral assets, and financial investments for our trust beneficiaries.



Dr. Mike Brand, Director of Surface Management

Mike is from a small farming community in southern Minnesota. In 1980, he received his Ph.D. in Botany from NDSU with an emphasis in range management. As part of his degree he completed a three year grazing research project in the Badlands of western North Dakota. Mike has been employed with the Land Department for over 25 years and has served as Director of Surface Management since 1986. He started as a range and soils specialist working on grazing plans, noxious weed control, and oil and gas impacts on school trust lands. As Director of Surface Management, Mike continues to work in the field on range improvement plans, reviews noxious weed control, and works on special projects. Mike is a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management.



Linda Fisher, Leasing Coordinator

Linda is from a south central North Dakota farm and has been working with the Land Department since 1991. She is knowledgeable in the everyday practical aspects of farming and ranching and helped run the family farm. Linda is responsible for making sure that school trust lands are leased efficiently and that the leases are maintained. This includes organizing lease auctions, working with county officials, and resolving problems that lessees may have with state land leases.



Jerry Saude, Land Management Specialist

Jerry is originally from Ada, Minnesota, and has worked at the Land Department since 1991. Jerry has a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science from NDSU and has worked for the Rolette County Soil Conservation District and USDA-Soil Conservation Service. Jerry assists with all aspects of the land management program. His primary responsibilities are noxious weed control and public access on school trust lands. Jerry also helps with the surface lease auctions. Jerry is knowledgeable in bio-control of leafy spurge and has a commercial agricultural pesticide applicator license and is a certified weed free forage inspector.



Mike Haupt, Rangeland Management Specialist

Mike is a native of Minot, North Dakota, and has a Bachelor's degree in Fish and Wildlife Biology from Montana State University and a Master's in Botany from NDSU, with an emphasis in rangeland management. Mike has been employed with the Land Department since 1988. He is responsible for easements, permits, and oil and coal industry reclamation on state school trust lands. Mike works with lessees reviewing land productivity, working on grazing distribution problems, improving forage production, and livestock grazing rotation systems. Mike is a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management.



Mike Humann, Rangeland Management Specialist

Mike was raised on a diversified farming and ranch operation in south central North Dakota. He has a Master's degree from NDSU in Botany specializing in rangeland management. He worked for the USDA Soil Conservation Service and has been employed by the Land Department since 1988. His responsibilities include range improvement planning, land productivity reviews, gravel lease management, foreclosed property management, and livestock water developments. Mike works with lessees on grazing distribution problems, improving forage production, and livestock grazing rotation plans. Mike is a Certified Professional in Rangeland Management.